

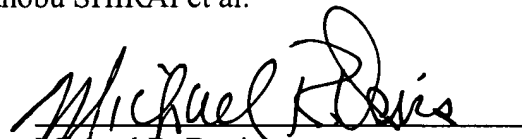
In view of these circumstances, Applicants also request that the date for responding to the Office Action be reset to expire three months from the mailing date of the new Office Action.

*The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.*

Respectfully submitted,

Sadanobu SHIRAI et al.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Davis", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael R. Davis

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